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HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY.

## RAIN IS

## NEEDED

To Insure a Successful Opening  
of The Tobacco Market  
Next Week.

The loose floors all expect to open the new season for tobacco next Tuesday but there will probably be but very little tobacco to offer for sale. The weather conditions have been altogether against the preparation of the crop for market and unless there is rain very soon, next week's sales are not likely to amount to much. The idea prevails that the price of tobacco is going to be very satisfactory when everything is considered. Practically all of the usual buyers are expected to be in market.

**Tasks for European Statesmen.**  
One hundred years ago the congress of Vienna was at work in an endeavor to readjust the map of Europe—the same task that the European statesmen will be called upon to perform when the present great conflict is ended. Curiously enough, the question of Poland constituted one of the most perplexing problems before the congress of Vienna, as it probably will at the next great conference of the nations following the present war. A century ago, as now, the national instinct of Russia aimed at nothing short of claiming possession of the whole of Poland. And then, as now, England was inclined to keep anxious watch upon the excessive aggrandizement of Russia, and to oppose the latter's plans for the annexation of Poland.

### Some Golf Statistics.

Golf is only 24 years old in America, but already the statisticians estimate that it costs us \$50,000,000 annually, caddies alone accounting for \$12,500,000. Makers of armaments are evidently not the only manufacturers who derive their profits from encouraging rivalry. But, then, the only losses incurred by excessive golf are time, money and temper. One university professor also charges it with encouraging large numbers of boys to fritter away the time they might have used in learning a useful trade, but the caddy with his ears open can learn a lot more than had language, and if careful, can save enough to start in business, that is if he does not become rich enough to retire. Many caddies make more than some university professors.

### Large Radish.

Mr. Dan W. Hanbery, of this city, brought to this office yesterday for display a mammoth white radish. The radish, when taken from the ground, weighed three and a half pounds.

## GEORGE HAVE SILENT GUNS

Pneumatic Weapon Discharges  
Projectiles Without Noise,  
British Colonel Reports.

A silent gun is the latest weapon to be brought forward by the German army in France, according to a narrative by Col. E. D. Swinton, British eyewitness at the front. The narrative, dated Nov. 23, says:

"In our center the enemy employed a silent gun which may be pneumatic or worked by some mechanical contrivance. There is no report of the discharge, the projectile travels through the air without any of the warning made by an ordinary shell and the first notice of its arrival is the detonation. So far the weapon has done no damage."

The account says the trenches of the opponents are at some points only forty yards apart. The English and Germans talk back and forth, holding shooting competitions and exchange tobacco.

"There the positions are not unwelcome to our men," the account continues, "for they at any rate are secure from shell fire, the hostile artillery being unable to shoot in the fear it would hit its own infantry."

Cold weather has frozen the slush, improving in one sense conditions in the trenches, the narrative says, but the drop in the temperature makes the men so stiff that many have to be lifted out of the trenches when relieved and others are sent partly frozen to hospitals.

"Beyond the hardship inflicted on individuals," Col. Swinton says, "the change in the weather chiefly has affected aerial reconnaissance and transport. The freezing makes the roads better and the clear, crisp atmosphere aids the aviators to see the landscape more freely."

The Germans in one place are using a 42-centimetre howitzer against the British left, it is said, and the report tells of the capture on November 21 of a German aeroplane bearing circulars calling on the Hindus to desert.

"Some of the roads behind the enemy's front line in one quarter," Col. Swinton writes "have, it is believed, become impassable, owing partly to the weather conditions existing before the recent drop in temperature and also to the attentions of the allied artillery."

## ARABIAN HORSES DYING OUT

International Society Being Formed  
With a View to Perpetuation of  
This Valuable Breed.

The Arab horse, a race which has been all-important in the development of the most valuable equine breeds of the present day, is said to be deteriorating in quality and diminishing in numbers in its original home, owing to the changing habits of the Bedouins and increasing exportation. As a step toward preserving this famous breed there is being formed in Cairo an international horse society. The first work of this society will be to start a studbook, one part of which will include only pure-bred horses of desert origin, while the other will be open to all so-called "Eastern" horses that is, horses bred in the near East, but having an infusion of alien blood. Pure-bred Arabians are now found only among the different Bedouin tribes of the Arabian and Syrian deserts (in Mesopotamia and the Nejd), in a few private studs in Egypt and in a very few European and American studs.

The society will hold annual shows and auction sales at which will be offered animals of certified purity of pedigree.

### Interesting Finds in India.

In recent researches at Surat Castle, India, Prof. O. V. Muller of Bombay says he was shown a large number of records dating from 1760 to 1830, which had been recently discovered in the cells of the castle. These were largely price lists and other matter valuable to a study of Indian economic history. The most interesting find, however, was a proclamation written in Marathi in the Modi script which, after narrating the iniquities of the Peshwa Bajji Rao, declared that he had been vanquished and afterward his dominions annexed by the Hon. East India company. The document added that if anyone should be disposed to disagree with this or desire to operate it, he would do so at the fine of his life and the confiscation of all his worldly possessions. Finally, the document was "signed by order of Mountstuart Elphinstone Bahadur" by his Marathi secretary, and certified by a huge and still most perfect seal of Elphinstone.

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## AUDUBON'S DECENT OF THE OHIO IN OCTOBER, 1810

John James Audubon, the American naturalist, gives an interesting account of his descent of the Ohio river in the autumn of 1810. What he describes makes good reading, as a comparison between that which Audubon found and the highly settled and cultivated states of the Ohio valley today.

"It was in the month of October. The autumnal tints already decorated the shores of that queen of rivers, the Ohio. Every tree was hung with long and flowing festoons of different species of vines, many loaded with clustered fruits of varied brilliancy, their rich bronze carmine mingling beautifully with the yellow foliage which now predominated over the yet green leaves, reflecting more lively tints from the clear stream than ever landscape painter portrayed or poet imagined.

"The days were yet warm. The sun had assumed the rich and glowing hue which at that season produces the singular phenomenon called there the 'Indian Summer.' The moon had rather passed the meridian of her grandeur. We glided down the river, meeting no other ripple of the water than that formed by the propulsion of our boat. Leisurely we moved along, gazing all day on the grandeur and beauty of the wild scenery around us. Now and then a large catfish rose to the surface of the water in pursuit of a shoal of fry, which, starting simultaneously from the liquid element, like so many silvery arrows, produced a shower of light. . . . Other fishes we heard uttering beneath our bark a rumbling noise, the strange sounds of which we discovered to proceed from the white perch; for, on casting our net from the bow, we caught several of that species, when the noise ceased for a time.

"Nature, in her varied arrangement, seems to have felt a partiality towards this portion of our country. As the traveler ascends or descends the Ohio he cannot help remarking that, alternately, nearly the whole length of the river, the margin on one side is bounded by lofty hills and a rolling surface; while on the other, extensive plains of the richest alluvial land are seen as far as the eyes can command the view. Islands of varied size and form rise here and

there from the bosom of the water, and the winding course of the stream frequently brings you to places where the idea of being on a river of great length changes to that of floating on a lake of moderate extent. Some of these islands are of considerable extent and value; while others small and insignificant, seem as if intended for contrast, and as serving to enhance the general interest of the scenery. These little islands are frequently overflowed during great freshets or floods, and receive at their heads prodigious heaps of drifted timber. We foresaw with great concern the alteration that cultivation would soon produce along these delightful banks.

"As night came, sinking in darkness; the broader portions of the river, our minds became affected by strong emotions and wandered far beyond the present momenta. The tinkling of bells told us that the cattle which bore them were gently roving from valley to valley in search of food, or returning to their distant homes. The hooting of the great owl and the muffled noise of its wings as it sailed smoothly over the stream, were matters of interest to us. So was the sound of the boatman's horn, as it came winding more and more softly from afar.

"When daylight returned, many songsters burst forth with echoing notes, more and mellow to the listening ear. Here and there the lonely cabin of a squatter stuck the eye, giving note of commencing civilization. Many sluggish flatboats we overtook and passed; some laden with produce from the different headwaters of the small rivers that pour their tributary streams into the Ohio; others, of less dimensions, crowded with emigrants from distant parts, in search of a new home."

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